MAYORS
AND
REEVES

MAYORS AND REEVES:

Historical Lists of Political Leaders of Nineteen Townships, Cities, Towns and Villages Which Are (Or Once Were) Incorporated Units Within the Present-Day Boundaries of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto (and including a list of the Chairmen of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto Council)

compiled by

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The files of the City of Toronto Archives were of especially great assistance in dealing with the many defunct jurisdictions which are now parts of the City of Toronto. The interested researcher will wish to examine these archival holdings, and the holdings of the Municipal Reference Division of the Metropolitan Toronto Library, in more detail.

Published works which were of assistance have been cited and were of much help in supplying names or in confirming names encountered elsewhere.

Alex Spence
January 1, 1990

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this booklet is to provide comprehensive lists of mayors and reeves (and Metropolitan Toronto chairmen) for the large number of incorporated jurisdictions which either once existed or still do exist within the present-day boundaries of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. The collection was developed because the scatter of information among many publications and institutions has made difficult the rapid determination of the names of individuals when enquiries have been received.

The information has been gathered by examination of books and files located in a number of libraries and archival collections, through oral and written communications with city and borough clerks' offices, and by searching newspapers of some time periods. Both primary and secondary sources were consulted.

The arrangement of information in the booklet requires little elaboration. The user is directed first to the Table of Contents, and then to any jurisdictional entry, which will serve as a sample of entry arrangement. Jurisdictions still in existence have been grouped together, as have defunct jurisdictions. There is a small section at the end of the booklet which provides citations to a few biographies which the user might find of interest.

Examination will show that, in the vast majority of cases, information regarding the time period of the electoral terms served is given using years only, and not more precise dates. Thus, if council members happen to have been elected in the second week of January and to have met for the first time near, say, the end of January to choose, as was the case in earlier years, a reeve or mayor from among their colleagues, then the entire year was assigned to the chosen reeve or mayor. Generally speaking, only if there were special circumstances, such as a resignation during a term of office resulting in appointment of a replacement reeve or mayor, is greater precision in dating attempted or, alternatively, are two names assigned to the same year. Note that dates of elections and of taking of office have varied a bit over the years, as an examination of newspaper reports shows.

Concerning nomenclature, the leader of council of an incorporated township or village is a reeve, while, in the case of towns and cities, the person is a mayor. As is indicated also in the City of Toronto section, in earlier years, generally speaking, reeves or mayors were chosen by councils from their memberships after the general election, and only later did reeves and mayors come to be elected by direct popular vote.

Discrepancies among information sources were encountered more often than was expected. When this situation occurred, a judgement was made, based on what the relative reliabilities of sources was considered to be and on the frequency of occurrence of alternative names. If, finally, two choices appeared to be equally weighted and the situation could not in the circumstances be further investigated, a note was appended to point out clearly the alternatives, in order to permit the user to pursue the issue himself, should he so wish.

Introductory and closing statements, quotations, and lists of additional sources of information are offered for interest only, and are not included for every jurisdiction.

The "Additional sources of information" sections are certainly not meant to be comprehensive. Nor are they meant to imply that additional information concerning the reeves and mayors listed in their sections are to be found in these sources. They are meant only to direct the user to general background information concerning the various communities.

Anyone researching election material might note a few general facts, particularly when using newspapers for additional research. Keep in mind that

1) for some periods of time elections were held in early December, and for other periods in early January;

2) sometimes no mention is made of a particular jurisdiction in newspapers of a period, and it seems that this is often because the council concerned was returned by acclamation for the term;

and, 3) very generally speaking, in the earliest years elections of councils occurred each year, voting for two-year terms began (or began to be considered) in many jurisdictions in the 1950s, and at present the council terms are three years long.

It is hoped that this consolidation of names for the entire region that is now the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto will assist researchers interested in the local history of an area which now holds close to ten per cent of Canada's population.

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h) East Toronto (Village; then Town) (1888-1908)
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SECTION 1

MUNICIPALITY OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO,

incorporated April 15, 1953

MUNICIPALITY OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO

Chairmen of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto Council:

1953 - 1961	Frederick G. GARDINER
1962 - 1969 (Sept.)	William R. ALLEN
1969 (Sept.30) - 1973 (July 30)	Albert M. CAMPBELL
1973 (July 31) - 1984 (Aug. 31)	Paul V. GODFREY
1984 (Aug. 31) - 1988 (Dec. 14)	C. Dennis FLYNN
1988 (Dec. 14) -	Alan TONKS

The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto (commonly referred to as Metro Toronto or simply Metro) was incorporated April 15, 1953. It comprised thirteen already-existing municipalities each of which continued to exist politically until a further change in 1967. The thirteen municipalities which, beginning in 1953, were represented by the second tier of government, the Metropolitan Council (including a Metro Chairman), were the following units:

Township of Scarborough
Township of York
City of Toronto
Village of Forest Hill
Village of Swansea
Township of East York
Township of North York
Town of Leaside
Town of Weston
Township of Etobicoke
Town of Mimico
Town of New Toronto
and Village of Long Branch

An additional change in structure came into effect January 1, 1967 when "An Act to Amend the Municipality of Toronto Act" (Bill 81) consolidated the thirteen municipalities into six units. At the beginning of 1967, then, the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto consisted of six political units, each with its own City or Borough Council and each represented, as well, on the Metropolitan Toronto Council. The six units comprising the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto as of 1967 were the following:

City of Toronto
Borough of Scarborough
Borough of North York
Borough of East York
Borough of York
Borough of Etobicoke

As of 1990, all of the five boroughs, except for the Borough of East York, have chosen to designate themselves "cities", so that now the political units within the boundaries of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto are

City of Toronto
City of Scarborough
City of North York
City of York
City of Etobicoke
and Borough of East York

The Metropolitan Toronto Chairman is not directly elected by the people, but is chosen by Metropolitan Toronto Council. The first Chairman was appointed by the provincial government (by the lieutenant-governor-in-council).

SECTION 2

POLITICAL JURISDICTIONS PRESENTLY IN EXISTENCE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO

CITY OF TORONTO,

incorporated 1834

CITY OF TORONTO

The old townsite of York was established by John Graves Simcoe in 1793 as a relatively tiny area of ten blocks located east of present-day Yonge Street down near the shore of Lake Ontario. There was considerable growth during the next forty years, so that by the time of its incorporation in 1834 the City of Toronto occupied a much larger area, bounded on the north by Bloor Street, on the west by Dufferin Street, on the south by Lake Ontario and on the east by the Don River as far south as Queen Street, whence the boundary jogged farther east below Queen Street, running out almost to Victoria Park Avenue (see J.M.S. Careless's work, listed below, for an informative map of Toronto from the years 1834 to 1914). From 1834 until 1883 the boundaries of the City of Toronto "remained unchanged, but between 1883 and 1920 a series of annexations took place which doubled the area of the City by 1900 and doubled it again by 1920" (ref. 1, p. 3). Glazebrook states that

> "[b]etween 1905 and 1939 the city grew from about seventeen square miles to thirty-five.... By the time of the first war Toronto had reached approximately its present boundaries, with the exceptions of Forest Hill and Swansea, which were added by the provincial government in 1967" (ref. 2, p. 211)

The City of Toronto is now, in 1990, one of the six political units of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto. It has had its own mayor since incorporation in 1834. According to the Toronto City Council Municipal Handbook for 1947, "[f]rom 1834 to 1858 and from 1867 to 1873, inclusive, the Mayor was chosen by Council from among its membership; from 1859 to 1866 inclusive, and from 1874 onwards, the Mayor was elected by general vote." This phenomenon of election of mayors or reeves by councils from among their memberships was a widespread practice in earlier years. Only in later years did the mayor or reeve come to be elected directly by popular vote.

Mayors of the City of Toronto (1834-)

1834	William Lyon MACKENZIE (see note)
1835	Robert Baldwin SULLIVAN
1836	Thomas D. MORRISON
1837	George GURNETT
1838 - 1840	John POWELL
1841	George MONRO
1842 - 1844	Henry SHERWOOD
1845 - 1847	William Henry BOULTON
1848 - 1850	George GURNETT
1851 - 1853	John George BOWES
1854	Joshua George BEARD
1855	George William ALLAN
1856	John Beverley ROBINSON

1857	John HUTCHISON
1858	William Henry BOULTON (to Nov. 1858; resigned)
1858	David Breackenridge READ (remainder of 1858)
1859 - 1860	Adam WILSON
1861 - 1863	John George BOWES
1864 - 1866	Francis H. MEDCALF
1867 - 1868	James E. SMITH
1869 - 1870	Samuel Bickerton HARMAN
1871 - 1872	Joseph SHEARD
1873	Alexander MANNING
1874 - 1875	Francis H. MEDCALF
1876 - 1878	Angus MORRISON
1879 - 1880	James BEATY, Jr.
1881 - 1882	William Barclay McMURRICH
1883 - 1884	Arthur Radcliffe BOSWELL
1885	Alexander MANNING
1886 - 1887	William Holmes HOWLAND
1888 - 1891	Edward Frederick CLARKE
1892 - 1893	Robert John FLEMING
1894 - 1895	Warring KENNEDY
1896	Robert John FLEMING
1897	Robert John FLEMING (until August 5)
1897	John SHAW (rest of year)
1898 - 1899	John SHAW
1900	Ernest A. MACDONALD (see note)
1901 - 1902	Oliver Aikin HOWLAND
1903 - 1905	Thomas URQUHART
1906 - 1907	Emerson COATSWORTH
1908 - 1909	Joseph OLIVER
1910 - 1912	George R. GEARY (retired Oct. 21, 1912)
1912	Horatio C. HOCKEN (appointed to finish GEARY term of 1912)
1913 - 1914	Horatio C. HOCKEN
1915 - 1921	Thomas Langton CHURCH
1922 - 1923	Charles Alfred MAGUIRE
1924	William W. HILTZ
1925 - 1927	Thomas ("Tommy") FOSTER
1928 - 1929	Sam McBRIDE
1930	Bert WEMP
1931 - 1934	William J. STEWART
1935	James SIMPSON
1936	Sam McBRIDE (died a few months after election)
1936	William D. ROBBINS (appointed as replacement Nov. 14, 1936)

1937	William D. ROBBINS
1938 - 1940	Ralph DAY
1941 - 1944	Frederick J. CONBOY
1945 - 1947	Robert Hood SAUNDERS
1948	Robert Hood SAUNDERS (resigned Feb. 23, 1948)
1948	Hiram E. McCALLUM (appointed as replacement Feb. 23, 1948)
1949 - 1951	Hiram E. McCALLUM
1952 - 1954	Allan LAMPORT (resigned June 25, 1954)
1954	Leslie H. SAUNDERS (appointed for remainder of year)
1955 - 1962	Nathan PHILLIPS
1963	Donald D. SUMMERVILLE (died during term)
1963	Philip G. GIVENS (appointed Nov. 1963 following death of SUMMERVILLE)
1964 - 1966	Philip G. GIVENS
1967 - 1972	William DENNISON
1973 - 1978	David CROMBIE (resigned during 1978 term)
1978	Fred BEAVIS (appointed interim mayor Sept. to Dec., when new administration assumed positions)
1978 - 1980	John SEWELL
1981 -	Arthur EGGLETON

Note:
The spellings of the surnames for 1834 and 1900, respectively, are "Mackenzie" and "Macdonald", as given by various sources

References:

1) Metropolitan Toronto, 1967 edition; prepared for Metropolitan Toronto Council by the staff of the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board, [Toronto: printed by Carswell Printing Co.]

2) G. P. deT. Glazebrook, The Story of Toronto, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, c1971.

Additional information sources:

1) City of Toronto Archives
2) Russell, Victor L. Mayors of Toronto: vol. 1, 1834-1899. Erin, Ont.: Boston Mills Press, c1982 [short biographies of all 19th-century mayors]

3) Careless, J.M.S. Toronto to 1918: An Illustrated History. Toronto: James Lorimer & Co. and National Museum of Man, National Museums of Canada, 1984 [see mayoral list to 1921 on p. 203]
4) Middleton, Jesse Edgar. The Municipality of Toronto: A History. Dominion Pub., 1923 (3 v.) [for "a complete roster of City Council" for the period from 1834 to 1923, see vol. II, Appendix A, pp. 791-815]

ETOBICOKE,

incorporated 1850

ETOBICOKE

The Township of Etobicoke was incorporated in 1850 by authority of the Municipal Corporations Act (the "Baldwin Act") of 1849. The Township became somewhat smaller with the secession of Mimico in 1911, New Toronto in 1913 and Long Branch in 1931. However, the Township was reunited with Mimico, New Toronto and Long Branch with the official creation of the Borough of Etobicoke on January 1, 1967. The Borough became a City on June 29, 1983.

Reeves of the Township of Etobicoke

1850	William GAMBLE
1851 - 1854	Joseph SMITH
1855 - 1857	Alexander McFARLANE
1858 - 1864	Edward MUSSON
1865 - 1870	William A. WALLIS (see note 1)
1871 - 1873	Matthew CANNING
1874 - 1876	William A. WALLIS (see note 1)
1877 - 1884	Matthew CANNING
1885 - 1896	John D. EVANS
1897 - 1900	David L. STREIGHT
1901	John T. CARR
1902 - 1905	John BRYANS
1906	Franklin E. SHAVER
1907	John D. EVANS
1908	John GARDHOUSE
1909	Russell S. WARNER
1910 - 1912	John GARDHOUSE
1913 - 1917	Charles SILVERTHORN (see note 2)
1918	James DANDRIDGE
1919 - 1920	William G. JACKSON
1921 - 1924	William J. GARDHOUSE
1925 - 1926	T. A. C. TIER
1927 - 1929	J. Ray PRICE
1930 - 1931	Robert MARSHALL
1932	William J. GARDHOUSE
1933	William CLARKSON
1934 - 1936	William A. ("Bill") ARMSTRONG
1937	William L. STEPHENS
1938 - 1943	William A. ("Bill") ARMSTRONG (resigned February 1943)

1943 - 1946	Franklin Alfred Corso BUTLER (came to office in 1943 after ARMSTRONG's resignation)
1947 - 1951	Clive M. SINCLAIR (see note 3)
1952 - 1956	W. B. ("Bev") LEWIS
1957 - 1962	Henry O. ("Ozzie") WAFFLE
1963 - 1966	John P. MacBETH

Mayors of the Borough/City of Etobicoke

1967 - 1972	Edward A. HORTON
1973 - 1984	C. Dennis FLYNN (FLYNN became Metro Chairman in Aug. 1984)
1984 -	G. Bruce SINCLAIR

Notes:

1) Clerk's Office, City of Etobicoke, has given the spelling "WALLACE". However, Minute Books of Township of Etobicoke Council Meetings of the period give the signature "WALLIS".
2) The spelling SILVERTHORNE is encountered often enough to merit mention.
3) Here the Clerk's Office, City of Etobicoke, communication gives SINCLAIR as reeve for 1952. However, the Etobicoke Advertiser (January 4, 1952, p. 7) refers, in its "News from Etobicoke" column, to "our new Reeve (Bev Lewis)". The examined contemporary printed source was accepted as accurate.

References:

1) Etobicoke Township, Municipal Council Minutes, 1857-1900, Salt Lake City: The Genealogical Society, [197-?] (these Municipal Council minutes are held on microfilm with assessment rolls and other documents in the local history collection of the city's public library)
(the Minutes provide the names of the reeves for the period indicated)

2) Mrs. Molly Sutherland of the Clerk's Office, City of Etobicoke, kindly provided a typed list of reeves and mayors. Where names had been obtained from reference 1, from the local newspaper, the Advertiser, or from various books concerning the local history of Etobicoke, this most helpful list provided a means of cross-checking information. In the few cases where there were discrepancies (noted), a judgement was made considering the various sources examined. Minute Books for the years after 1901 might be examined further.

Additional sources of information:

1) Heyes, Esther. Etobicoke from Furrow to Borough. [Etobicoke, Ont.]: Borough of Etobicoke, 1974

2) Given, Robert A. The Story of Etobicoke. [Toronto]: Etobicoke Township Council, 1950

3) Villages of Etobicoke. Weston, Ont.: Argyle Printing Co., [1985?]

YORK,

incorporated (first as a Township) 1850

YORK

The Township of York was incorporated in 1850 under authority of the Municipal Corporations Act (the "Baldwin Act") of 1849. Amalgamation with the Town of Weston formed the Borough of York on January 1, 1967. The Borough was declared the City of York on July 1, 1983. (ref. 1)

Reeves of the Township of York

1850 - 1851	Franklin JACKES
1852 - 1860	William JAMES
1861 - 1864	William TYRRELL (see also list of reeves of Weston)
1865 - 1870	B. BULL, Jr.
1871 - 1878	William TYRRELL (see also list of reeves of Weston)
1879 - 1886	Henry DUNCAN
1887	H. R. FRANKLAND
1888 - 1889	Arthur L. WILLSON
1890 - 1893	S. Thomas HUMBERSTONE
1894 - 1897	William J. HILL
1898 - 1902	Henry DUNCAN
1903 - 1904	William SYLVESTER
1905 - 1906	George SYME
1907 - 1910	George Stewart HENRY
1911 - 1912	John T. WATSON
1913 - 1914	George SYME, Jr.
1915 - 1918	Thomas GRIFFITH
1919 - 1922	Frederick H. MILLER
1923	William S. JURY
1924 - 1927	William M. GRAHAM
1928 - 1929	E. G. WESTBURY
1930 - 1931	W. J. G. DEAN
1932 - 1933	Alfred J. B. GRAY
1934 - 1935	R. J. STUART
1936 - 1937	W. M. MAGWOOD
1938 - 1946	Farquhar J. MacRAE
1947 - 1948	C. J. McMASTER
1949 - 1951	William G. BEECH
1952 - 1956	Fred W. HALL
1957 - 1960	Christopher A. TONKS
1961	Fred C. TAYLOR
1962	Walter SAUNDERS
1963 - 1966	Jack MOULD

Mayors of the Borough/City of York

1967 - 1969	Jack MOULD
1970 - 1978	Philip C. WHITE

1979 - 1982	Gayle CHRISTIE
1983 - 1988	Alan TONKS (see list of Metro Chairmen)
1989 -	Fergus BROWN

Note:

Beginning in the mid-1970s, the Canadian Almanac & Directory supplies the names of reeves and mayors of larger Canadian urban areas. The newspaper, the Globe and Mail, provided names from the mid 1950s to the mid-1970s.

References:

1) Date of formation of City received by phone from Clerk's Office, City of York

2) John Chancellor Boylen, York Township: An Historical Summary, 1850 - 1954, n.p.: Municipal Corporation... and Board of Education, Township of York, 1954 (see Appendix A, pp. 117-124, for list of reeves from 1850 to 1954. The list also includes names of deputy reeves and councillors for the period)

NORTH YORK,

became legally separate municipality June 13, 1922

NORTH YORK

"A private [member's] bill ordered York [Township] to conduct a plebiscite in the area requesting secession, with the result that North York became a separate municipality on June 13, 1922. On August 12, R. F. Hicks, a Bathurst farmer, was elected its first reeve." (ref. 1, p. 259)

The Township of North York became the Borough of North York on January 1, 1967 and, later, on February 14, 1979, was incorporated as the City of North York.

Reeves of the Township of North York

1922 - 1926	R. F. HICKS
1927 - 1928	W. W. ANDERSON
1929 - 1930	J. MUIRHEAD
1931 - 1933	G. B. ELLIOTT
1934 - 1940	R. E. BALES
1941 - 1949	G. H. MITCHELL
1950 - 1952	N. A. BOYLEN
1953 - 1956	F. J. McMAHON
1957 - 1958	V. M. SINGER
1959 - 1964	N. C. GOODHEAD
1965 - 1966	J. D. SERVICE

Mayors of the Borough/City of North York

1967 - 1969	J. D. SERVICE
1970 - 1972	B. H. HALL
1973 -	Melvin ("Mel") D. LASTMAN

Reference:

1) Patricia W. Hart, Pioneering in North York, Toronto: General Pub., c1968 (this work provides a list of North York reeves/mayors and of other politicians and municipal officials [Board of Education trustees, Hydro commissioners, and postal officials, e.g.]. Coverage is for the years 1922 to 1969)

Additional source of information:

North York Historical Society. Historical Outline of the Administration of the Borough of North York, Including Historic Sites. [Willowdale, Ont.]: Borough of North York, [1974] (this work also provides a list of names of reeves/mayors)

SCARBOROUGH,

incorporated 1850

SCARBOROUGH

The Township of Scarborough was incorporated in 1850 under legislation commonly referred to as the Municipal Corporations Act, or the Baldwin Act, of 1849. The Township became the Borough of Scarborough on January 1, 1967 and the City of Scarborough on June 29, 1983. See reference 1, below.

Reeves of the Township of Scarborough

1850	Peter SECOR
1851 - 1853	J. P. WHELER
1854	J. TORRANCE
1855 - 1864	J. P. WHELER
1865	D. G. STEPHENSON
1866	T. BROWN
1867 - 1870	G. CHESTER
1871 - 1875	J. P. WHELER
1876	G. CHESTER
1877 - 1880	D. G. STEPHENSON
1881 - 1894	J. RICHARDSON
1895	J. CHESTER
1896 - 1901	L. KENNEDY
1902 - 1907	A. YOUNG
1908 - 1912	W. D. ANNIS
1913 - 1919	J. G. CORNELL
1920 - 1921	J. T. STEWART
1922	E. M. CROKER
1923 - 1925	R. McCOWAN
1926	T. E. ALLEN
1927	G. MOORE
1928 - 1931	G. B. LITTLE
1932	F. L. BARCHARD
1933 - 1934	T. H. SANDERS
1935	George MOORE
1936 - 1938	B. J. WHEELER
1939 - 1945	B. L. CLUTTERBUCK
1946	A. P. WHELER
1947	R. H. PALMER
1948 - 1955	Oliver E. CROCKFORD
1956	A. ("Gus") HARRIS
1957 - 1966	Albert M. CAMPBELL

Mayors of the Borough/City of Scarborough

1967 - 1969	Albert M. CAMPBELL
1970 - 1972	Robert ("Bob") W. WHITE
1973 - 1978	Paul COSGROVE
1979 - 1988	A. ("Gus") HARRIS
1989 -	Joyce TRIMMER

Reference:

1) Robert R. Bonis, ed., A History of Scarborough, Scarborough, Ont.: Scarborough Public Library, 1965 (this work includes the names of Township of Scarborough reeves from 1850 through 1965, and includes photos, or in the earliest cases, other likenesses)

Note:

The Mayor's Office of the City of Scarborough was helpful in verifying earlier names, early December issues of the Globe and Mail newspaper of election years provided names for the mid-1960s through the early 1970s and the Canadian Almanac & Directory began providing the required information beginning in the mid-1970s.

EAST YORK,

incorporated 1924

EAST YORK

The first reeve of the newly-created Township of East York took office in 1924. The Township amalgamated with the Town of Leaside to become the Borough of East York at the beginning of 1967. From that time a mayor has been elected.

Reeves of the Township of East York

1924 - 1925	Robert BARKER
1926	R. H. McGREGOR
1927 - 1933	R. M. LESLIE
1934 - 1935	John WARREN
1936	Arthur H. WILLIAMS
1937 - 1949	John WARREN
1950 - 1956	Harry G. SIMPSON
1957 - 1960	Jack R. ALLEN
1961 - 1966	(Miss) True DAVIDSON

Mayors of the Borough of East York

1967 - 1972	(Miss) True DAVIDSON
1973 - 1976	Willis L. BLAIR
1977 - 1982	A. A. S. REDWAY
1983 -	Dave JOHNSON

Note:

Names for the years 1932 through 1946 were obtained from the Toronto Star and, in a few cases, from the Globe and Mail. For this period, the necessary information was found in the newspapers in all cases between the dates January 2 and January 5 of the year of interest.

Names from the mid-1970s on are to be found in the Canadian Almanac & Directory.

Names for the earliest years, and overall confirmation of the information collected was kindly confirmed in writing by the Clerk's Office, Borough of East York.

Additional source of information:

The Golden Years of East York. Edited and prepared by Centennial College Press; [East York]: Borough of East York, c1976

SECTION 3

JURISDICTIONS WHICH WERE ONCE INCORPORATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PRESENT-DAY MUNICIPALITY OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO, BUT WHICH NO LONGER EXIST INDEPENDENTLY POLITICALLY

MIMICO,

(1911 - 1966)

MIMICO

Until January 27, 1905 Mimico was, for municipal administrative purposes a part of the Township of Etobicoke. On that date a bylaw designated Mimico a "police village", and a later York County bylaw created the autonomous Village of Mimico on January 1, 1911 giving the village the right to elect its own reeve. The Town of Mimico was created in May 1917. A special election held that month elected Mimico's first mayor. (see ref. 1, below)

Reeves of the Village of Mimico (1911 - May 1917)

1911 - 1913	Robert H. SKELTON
1914	John J. HARRISON
1915	Caesar COXHEAD
1916 - 1917 (May)	John J. HARRISON

Mayors of the Town of Mimico (May 1917 - 1966)

1917 (May) - 1919	John J. HARRISON
1919 - 1920	Louis J. WEST
1921 - 1925	John H. DOUGHTY
1926	William E. S. SAVAGE
1927 - 1929	W. Arthur ("Gus") EDWARDS
1930 - 1932	Robert WAITES
1933 - 1935	Archibald D. ("Archie") NORRIS
1936 - 1940	Amos H. WAITES
1941 - 1942	Archibald D. NORRIS
1943 - 1945	Amos H. WAITES
1946	Archibald D. NORRIS
1947 - 1948	Amos H. WAITES
1949 - 1954	Archibald D. NORRIS
1955 - 1960	W. Arthur ("Gus") EDWARDS
1961 - 1966	Hugh M. GRIGGS

In January 1967 the Town of Mimico became part of the new Borough of Etobicoke.

Note:

Currell (ref. below, p.[8]) indicates that Louis J. West was mayor for 1919 and 1920. Elsewhere (p. 83), in his description of events of the year 1919, he states that "John Harrison retired as Mayor and Louis J. West succeeded him." I have made the assumption, based on the reference on p. [8], that Harrison's term at least did not include a substantial portion of 1919, if it included any time at all, and, have, therefore, given 1918 as Harrison's last year as mayor. Anyone interested in greater precision here should investigate the matter further.

Reference:

1) Harvey Currell, The Mimico Story, [Mimico, Ont.]: Town of Mimico and Library Board, 1967

Additional sources of information:

1) Heyes, Etobicoke from Furrow to Borough, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

2) Given, The Story of Etobicoke, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

3) Villages of Etobicoke, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

NEW TORONTO,

(1913 - 1966)

NEW TORONTO

The Village of New Toronto was incorporated in 1913 and became the Town of New Toronto in 1920.

Reeves of the Village of New Toronto

1913 - 1916	Geo. IRONSIDE
1917 - 1919	Charles LOVEJOY

Mayors of the Town of New Toronto

1920 - 1921	Charles LOVEJOY
1922	S. J. TUCKER
1923 - 1925	Geo. E. JANES
1926 - 1928	Geo. WARNER
1929 - 1936	William G. JACKSON
1937	S. B. DOUGLAS
1938 - 1951	William G. JACKSON
1952 - 1953	E. W. GRANT
1954	John L. STRATH
1955 - 1966	Donald R. RUSSELL

In January 1967 the Town of New Toronto became a part of the new Borough of Etobicoke.

Additional sources of information:

1) New Toronto, Ontario. Celebrating Our Golden Jubilee: New Toronto and New Toronto Hydro. n.p., 1963

2) Villages of Etobicoke, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

3) Heyes, Etobicoke from Furrow to Borough, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

4) Given, The Story of Etobicoke, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

LONG BRANCH,

(1931 - 1966)

LONG BRANCH

In 1931 Long Branch became the third municipality to secede from the Township of Etobicoke. The Village of Long Branch came into existence and the first reeve took office in that year.

Reeves of the Village of Long Branch

1931 - 1932	John SHANNON
1933	R. A. WESTBROOK
1934 - 1936	John SHANNON
1937	Joseph DEYMAN
1938 - 1941	Sam T. WRIGHT
1942 - 1943	John Ord ELTON
1944	Sam T. WRIGHT
1945 - 1947	Thomas F. CARTER
1948 - 1950	Lawrence ("Larry") ILES
1951 - 1952	Thomas F. CARTER
1953 - 1962	Marie CURTIS
1963 - 1964	Leonard E. FORD
1965 - 1966	Thomas BERRY

In January 1967 the Village of Long Branch became part of the new Borough of Etobicoke.

Additional sources of information:

1) Heyes, Etobicoke: From Furrow to Borough, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

2) Given, The Story of Etobicoke, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

3) Villages of Etobicoke, as listed under the jurisdiction "ETOBICOKE"

WESTON,

(1881 - 1966)

WESTON

Incorporation of Weston as a village occurred in 1881, with the first election held January 1, 1882 and the first council meeting January 16, 1882. The first mayor of the Town of Weston was elected for the year 1915 (see ref. 1, below)

Reeves of the Village of Weston

1882 - 1886	William TYRRELL
1887 - 1889	T. R. WADSWORTH
1890	Jacob BULL
1891 - 1893	William TYRRELL
1894 - 1896	Jacob BULL
1897 - 1901	W. J. CHARLTON (see note 1)
1902	Jas. CONRAN, Jr.
1903 - 1906	Jacob BULL
1907	E. F. IRWIN
1908 - 1913	R. J. BULL
1914	E. F. IRWIN

Mayors of the Town of Weston

1915 - 1918	W. J. CHARLTON (see note 1)
1919 - 1920	John GARDHOUSE
1921 - 1925	Robert J. FLYNN
1926 - 1928	George SAINSBURY
1929 - 1930	Andrew L. COULTER
1931	Walter J. POLLETT
1932 - 1934	Samuel J. TOTTEN
1935 - 1936	F. W. MERTENS
1937 - 1939	G. B. EVANS
1940 - 1942	S. Gordon HARRIS
1943 - 1945	J. P. ALLAN
1946 - 1948	T. E. DOUGHERTY
1949	K. L. THOMPSON
1950 - 1954	R. C. SEAGRAVE
1955 - 1958	H. CLARK
1959 - 1960	J. L. HOLLEY
1961 - 1964	G. W. BULL
1965 - 1966	C. W. BODDINGTON

In January 1967 the Town of Weston became, together with the Township of York, the new Borough of York.

Note:

Cruickshank (ref. below) gives initials "W. H." for Charlton in 1900 and "J. W." for 1918. These have been <u>assumed</u> to be misprints.

References:

1) Frederick David Cruickshank, History of Weston, Weston, Ont.: printed by The Times & Guide, [1937]
(reeves and mayors to 1937 are given in this source. Here names of other council members may be found as well)

2) The Clerk's Office, City of York, kindly provided a list of mayors and other councillors for the period 1927 to 1966, permitting some cross-checking

YORKVILLE,

(1853 - 1883)

YORKVILLE

"The Village of Yorkville was incorporated on Jan. 1, 1853 by Proclamation dated Apr. 23, 1852.... An Act of the Provincial Legislature...providing for annexation of the Village of Yorkville by the City of Toronto was given assent on Feb. 1, 1883." (ref. 1)

Reeves of Yorkville

1853	James S. DOBSON
1854	John SLEIGH
1855	Thomas ATKINSON
1856	George BOSTWICK
1857	James S. DOBSON
1858 - 1859	Peter HUTTY
1860 - 1862	William ROWELL
1863 - 1864	Charles Valance BERRYMAN
1865	Joseph GIBSON
1866 - 1867	Charles Valance BERRYMAN
1868 - 1870	John SEVERN
1871	Thomas NIGHTINGALE
1872 - 1877	John SEVERN
1878 - 1880	Samuel WICKSON
1881	Joseph GIBSON
1882	Samuel WICKSON
1883	Bernard SAUNDERS

Reference:

1) City of Toronto Archives, Finding Aid: Yorkville [RG100], p. 3

Additional information sources:

Hutcheson, Stephanie. Yorkville in Pictures 1853 to 1883: The Early History of Yorkville. [Toronto Public Library Board], 1978

PARKDALE,

(1879 - 1889)

PARKDALE

The Village of Parkdale existed as a political entity for only a decade. The City of Toronto Archives files (ref. 1) state that ..."the Village of Parkdale was incorporated in January 1879 despite several attempts by the City of Toronto to absorb the new community. As early as 1885 negotiations were under way with the City to effect an amalgamation of the two municipalities which finally occurred on March 23, 1889".

Reeves of Parkdale

1879 - 1881	John GRAY
1882 - 1883	Charles FRANKISH (resigned April 2, 1883)
1883	William HAMILTON (elected April)
1884 - 1886	Hugh MacMATH [also often spelled McMATH] (also see note below)

Mayors of Parkdale

1886 - 1888	Adam M. LYND
1889	George S. BOOTH

Note: pencilled in on p. 3 of reference 1, cited below, is the phrase "appears incorporated as town in 1886".

Reference:

1) City of Toronto Archives, Finding Aid: Parkdale [RG102], p.[3]

Additional information sources:

Parkdale Centennial Research. Parkdale: A Centennial History. [Toronto]: Parkdale Centennial Research, c1978

Council Minutes of the Village of Parkdale are presently held by the Parkdale Branch, Toronto Public Library

BROCKTON,

(1880 - 1884)

BROCKTON

The Village of Brockton existed politically for a very short time on its own. City of Toronto Archives sources (ref. 1, below) provide the following items of information:

> "Brockton incorporated on November 19, 1880 (Vict. 44, chapter 34)" [pencilled in on p.[3]];
>
> "The Council of the newly incorporated Village of Brockton met for the first time on Jan. 19, 1881" [p. [3]]; and
>
> The Act of the Ontario Legislature which annexed the Village of Brockton to the City of Toronto and which also annexed High Park "was given assent on Mar. 25, 1884" [p.[3]].

Reeves of the Village of Brockton

1881 - 1882	John WINCHESTER
1883 - 1884	John McCONNELL

Reference:

1) City of Toronto Archives, Finding Aid: Brockton [RG101] (this source also provides a list of Brockton councillors for each of the four years)

EAST TORONTO,

(1888 - 1908)

EAST TORONTO

City of Toronto Archives sources (reference 1, below) provide the following items of information (pencilled into "Introduction" of the reference):

> "East Toronto was incorporated as a village as a result of York County by-law 508 passed Nov. 23, 1887. It came into effect first Monday in January, 1888 [January 2, 1888]...";
>
> "On July 31, 1902 East Toronto annexed Little York";
>
> "The village was erected into a town on Jan. 5, 1903..."; and
>
> "East Toronto was annexed by the City of Toronto on Dec. 15, 1908".

Reeves of the Village of East Toronto

1888 - 1894	D. G. STEPHENSON (resigned Aug. 7, 1894)
1894	John RICHARDSON (as of Aug. 29; CTA card file of reeves states "accepted position Aug. 1")
1895 - 1896	John RICHARDSON
1897 - 1898	W. R. WALTERS
1899	Andrew McMILLIN (see note 1)
1900	George L. DAVIDSON (as listed in Finding List and card file for East Toronto reeves, CTA; however, see note 2)
1901 - 1903	W. R. WALTERS

Mayors of the Town of East Toronto

1904	W. R. WALTERS (see notes 3 and 4)
1905 - 1906	John RICHARDSON
1907	John McPHERSON
1908	Andrew McMILLIN

Reference:

1) City of Toronto Archives, Finding Aid: East Toronto [RG103]

Notes:

1) Minutes, Reports, By-Laws, etc., of the Council of the Corporation of the County of York [annual] gives spelling "McMillan"

2) Source in note 1) gives "A. McMillan" as Reeve for 1900

3) Source in note 1) gives "S. Walters" instead of "W.R. Walters" for the 1901 - 1903 period

4) Source in note 1) gives Mayor as "W.B. Walters" for 1904. Also, City of Toronto Archives card file of reeves/mayors gives WALTERS as Mayor, while Finding Aid (see ref. 1), refers to him as Reeve. Card file would appear to fit more closely with Introduction to Finding Aid

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION,

(1887 - 1909)

WEST TORONTO JUNCTION

This political unit is sometimes referred to as West Toronto or as Toronto Junction. The City of Toronto Archives (reference 1, "Introduction", p. [3]) provides the following items of information:

> "The Village of West Toronto Junction was incorporated in June 1887. In 1888, the villages of Davenport and Carlton, having been refused their petition to the Provincial Legislature for incorporation, became a part of West Toronto Junction";
>
> "On March 23, 1889, West Toronto Junction was incorporated as a Town.... On April 14, 1908, the Town of West Toronto Junction was incorporated as as the City of West Toronto"; and
>
> "On May 1, 1909, West Toronto was annexed by the City of Toronto...".

Reeve of the Village of West Toronto Junction

1888 - 1889	Daniel Webster CLENDENAN

Mayors of the Town of West Toronto Junction and of the City of West Toronto

1889	Daniel Webster CLENDENAN
1890	George Johnson ST. LEGER
1891	Daniel Webster CLENDENAN
1892 - 1893	William PEARS
1894 - 1895	James BOND
1896 - 1898	George Washington CLENDENAN
1899 - 1900	Peter LAUGHTON
1901 - 1902	Ruben ARMSTRONG
1903 - 1904	John Russell CHISHOLM
1905 - 1906	Jesse C. SMITH
1907 - 1909	William Alexander BAIRD

Reference:

1) City of Toronto Archives, Finding Aid: West Toronto [RG104]

Note:

The City of Toronto Archives Finding Aid provides a list of reeves/mayors only to 1896 in this instance. Their card file, "Lists of Mayors...", provides names for later years.

NORTH TORONTO,

(1889 - 1912)

NORTH TORONTO

North Toronto existed as a separate political entity for just over twenty-three years. The City of Toronto Archives provides the following items of information (see reference 1):

> "With the passage of by-law number 551 by the Council of the Corporation of the County of York on Nov. 22, 1889 the villages of Davisville and Eglinton were erected into the incorporated village of North Toronto. On April 7, 1890 the village was re-constituted...as The Corporation of the Town of North Toronto..."; and
>
> "North Toronto was annexed by the City of Toronto on December 15, 1912."

Reeve of the Village of North Toronto

Nov. 1889 - 1890	John R. MILLER

Mayors of the Town of North Toronto

1891 - 1896	John FISHER
1897 - 1901	Joseph S. DAVIS (see note 1)
1902 - 1908	John FISHER
1909 - 1912	Alonzo J. BROWN

Note:

The name of the mayor for 1898 is in doubt. Neither the City of Toronto Archives' Finding Aid: North Toronto nor their card file, "List of Mayors..." contains an entry for that year. The user will have to pursue other records of the period for verification.

Reference:

1) City of Toronto Archives, Finding Aid: North Toronto [RG105]

Additional source of information:

Jackes, Lyman B. Tales of North Toronto. [Can. Historical Press, n.d.] (2v.; v.1 "issued with the compliments of the North Toronto Business Men's Association, 1948")

FOREST HILL,

(December 15, 1923 [incorporated] - 1966)

FOREST HILL

Reeves of the Village of Forest Hill

1924 - 1928	Lawrence H. BALDWIN (see note below)
1929 - 1930	A.H. Keith RUSSELL
1931 - 1932	Andrew HAZLETT
1933 - 1935	Hugh M. COOKE
1936 - 1937	Arthur Stanley LEITCH
1938 - 1949	Frederick Goldwin GARDINER
1950 - 1951	Bruce Pettit DAVIS
1952	Stewart ROBERTSON
1953 - 1956	Charles O. BICK (resigned Apr. 18, 1956)
1956 - 1962	Laurie T. SIMONSKY (became reeve May 9, 1956)
1963 - 1966	Edwin J. PIVNICK

On January 1, 1967 the Village of Forest Hill became part of the City of Toronto.

Note:
The spelling "Laurence" has been encountered as well. The authority of the City of Toronto Archives has been accepted here.

Additional information source:
French, William. A Most Unlikely Village: An Informal History of the Village of Forest Hill. Toronto: Village of Forest Hill, c1964
(this work contains, among many other interesting items of information, a yearly population count for the years 1924 to 1962)

SWANSEA,

(1925 - 1966)

SWANSEA

Reeves of the Village of Swansea

1926 - 1927	James A. HARVEY
1928 - 1937	Robert J. WALLACE
1938 - 1945	Clarence C. DOWNEY
1946 - 1951	W. E. BRANDON
1952	C. D. CAMERON
1953 - 1962	Dorothy HAGUE
1963 - 1966	Lucien C. KURATA (resigned Apr. 1966)
1966	J. T. BONHAM (completed term of Kurata)

In 1967 the Village of Swansea became part of the City of Toronto.

Reference:

City of Toronto Archives files

LEASIDE,

(1913 - 1966)

LEASIDE

The Town of Leaside was incorporated on May 7, 1913, with 1,025 acres [and] 43 people and a motto of "Stability and Wisdom of Purpose" (reference 1, p. 6).

Mayors of Leaside

1913 - 1914	Randolph McRAE
1915 - 1923	R. P. ORMSBY
1924 - 1930	H. HORSFALL
1931 - 1935	G. WILKINSON
1936 - 1937	J. SCOTT
1938 - 1947	H. TALBOT
1948 - 1950	G. T. MANES
1951 - 1955	H. T. BURRELL
1956 - 1962	Charles H. HISCOTT (a new mayor is reported to have taken office Feb.26, 1962; see ref. 2, below)
1962 (Feb. 26 - end term)	Lloyd M. DICKINSON
1963 - 1966	Elizabeth ("Beth") NEALSON

In January 1967 the Town of Leaside became, with the Township of East York, the new political creation called the Borough of East York.

References:

1) Charles Clay, The Leaside Story, [Leaside, Ont.: Leaside Council], 1958
(presents list of mayors, reeves, deputy reeves and councillors from 1913 to 1958)

2) Lists of mayors and other council members of Leaside, and of reeves and other council members of the Township of East York, kindly provided by the Clerk's Office, Borough of East York. This list permitted verification of names and dates that had been gathered elsewhere, and provided the one correction, for 1962, as noted above

SECTION 4

SAMPLES OF SOURCES OF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION CONCERNING MAYORS, REEVES, AND CHAIRMEN

SAMPLE OF BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL CONCERNING MAYORS, REEVES, AND METRO CHAIRMEN

Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto

Colton, Timothy J. Big Daddy: Frederick G. Gardiner and the Building of Metropolitan Toronto. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1980

City of Toronto

Russell, Victor Loring. Mayors of Toronto: vol. 1, 1834-1899. Erin, Ont.: Boston Mills Press, 1982
(short biographies of all 19th-century City of Toronto mayors; vol. 2 has not been published at this time)

Morton, Desmond. Mayor Howland, The Citizens' Candidate. Toronto: Hakkert, [1973]

Phillips, Nathan. Mayor of All the People. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, c1967
(autobiography, in which Phillips discusses, from a personal perspective, political history of the City of Toronto back to the 1920s)

Caulfield, Jon. The Tiny Perfect Mayor. Toronto: James Lorimer & Co., 1974
(about David Crombie)

Canadian Who's Who, 1989 edition, gives brief entries for, e.g., Arthur C. EGGLETON, John SEWELL (under SEWELL, Edward John Charles), and David CROMBIE

Etobicoke

There are several paragraphs on William A. ("Bill") ARMSTRONG in the magazine "HOME", January 1946, p. [7]
(this was a periodical published by Home Smith & Co., Toronto. A copy is presently in the Local History collection of the Central Library of Etobicoke Public Libraries)

Frank (Franklin) A. C. BUTLER obituaries are found in the newspapers Etobicoke Press (Sept. 21, 1967, p.3) and Etobicoke Advertiser-Guardian (Sept. 21, 1967, p.1)

References to Charles SILVERTHORN and family are found in the newspapers Etobicoke Press (May 4, 1967, pp. 12-13 and May 11, 1967, p. 8+) and Etobicoke Advertiser-Guardian (April 20, 1967, p. 17)

Parkdale

The booklet, Parkdale: A Centennial History (see PARKDALE page), contains several paragraphs on Parkdale's first reeve, John GRAY, on page 9

This is meant to be only a small sample of available information in this area, and consists essentially of references which happened to be encountered during compilation of the lists. The interested researcher has many sources to consult in library and archival collections.